

By JOSEPH HATTON.

A Trip to Mars.

Talking of stars, shooting and other wise, I have before me an American journal of the West, containing an account of a recent fraud, the author of which, if honest, might have freed his soul in a magazine story. But he was not honest, he described a new and certain method of reaching the planet Mars, and advertised means of circulars the first thither. The attractions of the world were a lovely climate, no taxes, no police, everybody tented, free land and gardens, people living under easy conditions, and many other things. No outfit beyond a change of clothes for the journey was required. Everything was provided by the president and directors of the Emigration Bureau, which had organised the trip. The cost was only fifty dollars. The secret of the movement collected a bagful of fares, and caused very elaborate machinery; but the motor was never appeared at the advertised rendezvous, and the local sheriffs were only made aware of the fraud when the organizers had disappeared. I remember ten years ago a new steamer being announced to start from a certain pier the West Coast of England for an expedition round the Great Orme's Head. Bills were distributed, and the ship opened near the proposed place of starting. The fare was to be shillings, for which, besides a picnic trip at sea, there was to be a reception luncheon, provided by a famous chef, and later on "a champagne dinner with "a handsome dessert" supplied "from a private gentleman's collection." It was promised that the dinner was to be played during dinner, and a sort of vocal music was to be given in the saloon. The office was crowded two whole days before the fixture of the excursion. Some two or three hundred pounds were taken for tickets upon each of which was printed "Luncheon of, luncheon, champagne dinner, &c." The happy party never broke that was to see the "hottel" come steaming over the "the voyagers were all assembled. It was not until late in the day they discovered they had been robbed. All they could do was to wreck wooden office that had been run up by the pier. There is a little faction to be got out of that party, there was, however, the would-be cursorians indulged in to their content. I wonder if the Emigration of that imaginary excursion emigrated to America? A trip to is a flight just a little too steep for the most trustful of Englishman's imaginations. The things in America, and there has so much said and written about being inhabited, that, backed learned extracts from great authorities on the subject, one can imagine a plausible advertisement being

INDIAN COTTON DUTIES

The joint committee of employers and operatives held a meeting in Manchester on Tuesday, to which Messrs T. Garnett and W. Watersall presided. Reports of their interview with the Secretary of State for India, Mr. George Hamilton, and a resolution was passed unanimously expressing strong disappointment at and disapproval of the delay which has been shown in complying with the prohibition of the duties on the Indian import duties, and trusting that the Secretary of State for India will take steps bringing the matter to a head without further delay, as trade is hampered by the duties, and that the Government resolution was adopted and Lord G. Hamilton to receive a delegation of operatives, employers, Lancashire M.P.'s next week.

W. L. SMALL.—Have your teeth looked at by a skillful dentist. All that are decayed should be either removed or stopped. Use the following solution 3 or 4 times a day as a mouth wash: Listine, 1 ounce; glycerinal, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce; aqua destill, 10 ounces.

BUCOLIC.—Apply night and morning a small quantity of the ungat acid boracic.

T. SMITH.—Take $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce of this medicine 4 times a day 2 hours after each meal: Liq. nes carb, 10 ounces; tinct rhel, 1 ounce; tinct

C. A. L.—Get a piece of strong cardboard which must be cut the exact size to fill the picture frame. Make a strong flour paste with a pint or two of powdered alum in it, cook it a little and when cold use it for pasting your picture into the centre of the cardboard. When you have pasted the picture neatly and firmly on the board, dabbing it down from centre

years ago. Daughter Georgina.
Kate and Leonard Redfern, left Sheffield about 3 years ago. Cousin Robert.
John Barber, went to Australia many years ago. Niece Eleanor.
William Lambert, at London Bridge Station in July, 1894. Daughter Lily.
Miss Roruss's notice does not comply with our rules. See above.
E. T. Burton, left England for Canada in July, 1894. Father and mother.

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OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

There have been a great many reports concerning the projected season in London of the Carl Rosa Company, but up to a few days ago nothing definite had been settled. Mr. George Edwards states that, should the troupe decide to give a series of performances at Daly's Theatre, they would take place in the afternoon, and consequently not interfere with the run of success which is still enjoyed by "An Artist's Model."

I hear that the Antoinette Sterling Concert Company are not meeting with unequivocal success in their American tour. On the other hand, some of the American papers praise the artists highly, two of them, Miss Janotha and Mr. Tivadar Naches, being extolled in true Yankee fashion.

Some of the Italian papers express disapproval of the appointment of Signor Mascagni as director of the Liceo Musicale of Ferrara. It is well known that the young composer is of a roving and rather erratic disposition, and it is thought that these tendencies may unfit him for such an important and lucrative post. Time will show!

I am pleased to learn that Mr. Harold Bauer has made quite an exceptionally successful debut in Berlin. The German critics are unanimous in their enthusiastic praise of the clever young pianist's playing, some of them comparing him to Herr Moritz Rosenthal. By-the-by, the latter gentleman gives his last pianoforte recital on Monday at St. James's Hall.

According to a recent article in "The Times," the number of musicians and teachers of the various branches of musical art has more than doubled during the last 10 years. The proportion of ladies who embrace the profession is considerably larger than the sterner sex.

Her Majesty the Queen has honoured the veteran composer, Mr. Henry Russell, by graciously accepting a copy of his reminiscences, which he has recently published under the title of "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," the name of the song which is sung with such feeling by Miss Fanny Brough in the popular Drury Lane drama.

Another infant prodigy courts a hearing on Friday when she will give a pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall in the afternoon. The young lady in question is announced as "The" child pianist; but inasmuch as Master Basil Gauntlett (aged 10) announces a similar entertainment, and various other children lay claim to the distinction of being "child pianists," we must wait until Miss Erica May Kuhn-Stroh has been heard before according her the superlative "The."

I see that Sir Arthur Sullivan's charming work, "The Golden Legend," is down for the next performance of the Royal Albert Society, which will be given at the Albert Hall on Thursday evening. Madame Albani, Miss Clara Butt, Mr. Lloyd Chandos, Mr. Robert Grice, Mr. Henry Wood, Mr. Joseph Barnby and his fine choir, ensure a finished rendering of Sir Arthur's beautiful composition.

The first of Mr. David Bispham's concerts of popular classical music will be given at St. James's Hall on Tuesday afternoon. The other two of the series of the last 10 years will take place at the same hall on the afternoon of Jan. 7 and Feb. 11, beginning on each occasion at 3.30.

I am glad to say that the gifted conductor, Herr Hermann Levi, has quite recovered from the severe illness of which mention was made in this column a month or so back. He had been broken down in health by hard work, and complete rest has put him quite right. Herr Levi has resumed his duties as conductor at Munich, and intends to revisit London in the summer and conduct some of Mr. Schütz's operas.

It appears that Lady Hall did not make her London debut at a Philharmonic concert, as is generally supposed, but at the old Princess's Theatre, where her success was so great that she was immediately engaged for the Philharmonic, after which, of course, her name and fortune were secured.

The popular teacher of singing, Mr. Albert Visetti, intends giving a series of pleasant invitation quartette concerts at his house in Kensington on Sunday afternoons.

M. Jean de Reszke has made an immense hit in America on his first appearance in German opera. The famous Polish tenor impersonated the rôle of Tristan in Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde" at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, on the occasion. Madame Nordica appearing as Isolde. Both artists were most successful and were most enthusiastically applauded and applauded at the close of the performance.

Mr. Sims Reeves and Madame Belle Cole will sing at the Sunday afternoon concert at Queen's Hall on Dec. 8. Mr. Randegger will, as usual, conduct the splendid orchestra, led by Mr. Ernest Parker, and Mr. Howard Reynolds is down for some of his popular solos on the cornet.

I think that most of the ladies were disappointed in the arrangements made at the Strolling Players' Smoking Concert at the Queen's Hall. They all enjoyed the affair given last year immensely, but this other night the room was hardly changed, and the gentlemen are obliged either to forego smoking or else leave their friends alone.

The next oratorio to be performed by the Queen's Hall Choir is "Samson," which will be given at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening, with Miss Alice Esty, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. Ben Davies, Mr. Watkin Mills, Mr. Reginald Brophy, and Mr. W. A. Peterkin as vocalists.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

Very few people who have been in the country can have failed to see numbers of moles, and sometimes amongst them a weasel, hanging on the hedges. It is a question often asked whether the mole is a useful or an injurious animal. There can be no doubt that if the mole's natural enemies were not molestoed it would be a very beneficial animal. As it is, the weasel, one of its greatest foes, is slaughtered at every opportunity, and the mole in consequence increases in some localities to such an extent that it causes damage to growing crops and gardens by throwing up innumerable hillocks. It also rids the ground of more earth-worms than should be the case.

The mole is most active, or rather throws up more mounds, just at the beginning of spring. Then it is that the earth-worms come out of their winter quarters to near the surface of the ground, and the mole is ever busy burrowing after them. In the summer the mole lives mostly on the surface of the ground, it not being necessary for it to burrow for its food because at this time of the year the worms crawl over the ground at night. In winter the mole passes most of its time in sleep. It brings forth two families in the course of the year of about four or five at a birth.

The worm, which forms the mole's chief food, is, when not too numerous, more useful to agriculturists and gardeners than is generally supposed. It is constantly bringing up earth from great depths to the sur-

face, and consequently is perpetually enriching the soil, and the growing plants and shrubs in this way derive great benefit. The worm also in tunnelling through the earth keeps it from being too hard, and its natural food, such as birds, frogs, and moles, are not present, the worm becomes rather a pest, for, being a vegetable feeder, it draws into its burrows so many of the plants which are growing in the gardens and fields.

The worm is very prolific, and were it not for this fact it would, I think, stand a poor chance in the great fight for existence. Its foes are numerous indeed; the mole hunts it in its own ground, and many other animals of the three classes, beasts, birds, and reptiles, prey upon it when it comes above ground. Fishes, too, when they get the chance, greedily devour it. Its greatest enemy, however, is the mole, and it is astonishing what enormous numbers of worms one of these animals can eat. It is mainly due to the mole that in this case the balance of life is maintained, that is, the increase of the worm is kept within bounds by it.

An obliging correspondent at Biarritz has sent me the following most interesting account of the strange behaviour of a number of caterpillars. "Yesterday, while walking down one of the lanes just outside this place we noticed on the ground what we took to be a piece of rope, on coming up to which, to our astonishment, we saw it was moving. On closer examination it turned out to be a long string of hairy caterpillars, which were crawling out of a dry ditch. The string was at least from 15 to 18 feet in length, and the insects in the vanguard had collected into a round seething mass at least 8 inches in diameter and about 1½ inches high or thick. The head of each caterpillar was touching the tail of the other, and the string was marching on quickly towards the round mass, which was stationary. We also noticed another string of the same kind of caterpillars, about two yards in the rear of the first string, crawling along in the identical way."

My correspondent asks me if I can give any explanation of this phenomenon. I can only suggest that the insects were migrating from one place to another, and had formed themselves into the shape of a rope to deceive their foes, of which, perhaps, there were many in the neighbourhood. In fact, had they congregated on the lines of "unity is strength," and were travelling en masse so as not to attract the enemies, which would be the case if they went singly. I think it was the well-known naturalist, Mr. W. H. Hudson, who noticed the same sort of thing in another kind of insect on the Pamperos of the Argentine Republic. I believe he attributed their travelling in this fashion to the same cause.

If sheep or cattle are bitten by a dog the owner of the dog has to pay for the damage done. Not so with human beings. If a person is bitten by a dog, before he can get compensation he has to prove that the animal has bitten someone else. To say the least, the present state of the law is exceedingly curious, for in the case of the sufferer his dog is allowed on the ground of that bite whether serious or not, and has no legal remedy, whereas in the case of cattle the first bite suffices to make the dog's owner pay costs.

The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens during the week ending Dec. 3 include a white-headed sea-eagle, a Bahama duck, a green-winged dove, 12 snow-bunting, 2 blood-breasted pigeons, a chough, 4 dunlins, a golden plover, a grey plover, 2 greater sulphur-crested cockatoos, a crimson-winged parakeet, a dorcas goat, 2 bearded vultures, 2 tufted umbrellas, and a chestnut-breasted finch.

THE ACTOR.

There was quite a smart audience at the Vaudeville on Tuesday, when Mr. Weedon Grossmith revived "The New Boy." In one of the boxes was Miss Maud Millett, who, no doubt, took a special interest in the performance, seeing that the rôle of Bullock Major, the "head boy," was in the hands of her brother, Mr. Kenneth Douglas. In like manner, the presence in another box of Miss Dorothy Dene and Mrs. Herbert Schmalz may be ascribed to the fact that their young sister Lena was undertaking the part of Nancy.

The benefit performance at the Royal Albert Hall on Wednesday afternoon—in aid of the Society for Preventing Cruelty to Children—was graced by the attendance of the Duchess of Albany, with whom was the Duke of Devonshire, and a number of the new and clever comedietta, "Mr. versus Mrs.," in which Mr. and Mrs. Bouchier played delightfully. I understand that Mr. Bouchier's collaborator in the composition of this little piece is Mr. Money Counts, who has before now written for the stage.

Where do all the people come from who go to mid-week matinees? That Saturday afternoons should be given up to pleasure one can understand, but how do many contrive to go to the play on Wednesday afternoon? Last Wednesday's noon of "Romance and Juliet" at the Lyceum attracted an audience which filled not only the stalls and boxes and dress circle, but also the pit, the upper circle, and the gallery. The theatre was one sea of heads from floor to ceiling. Who shall say that that Shakespeare does not draw? As produced at the Lyceum it is magnetic.

"Princess Ida," the Gilbert-Sullivan opera which is to be played during the coming week at the Cambridge Theatre, is a real and a splendid perversion of Tennyson's poem. The Princess, "Cupid's daughter," in a piece called "The Princess's Idea." If I remember rightly, it is the only one of the Gilbert-Sullivan series of which the dialogue is in blank verse, and I fancy it is also the only one that is in three acts. What I am sure of is that it contains some of the very prettiest and sprightliest music that Sullivan ever wrote.

"Kitty Clive, Actress," the one-act comedietta, by Mr. Frankfort Moore, which Mr. Bouchier will present at the Royal Albert Hall on Wednesday evening, is a very light and a very pleasant comedy. It is a "Harper's Magazine" story. After reading it, I advised Mr. Moore to turn it into a comedietta, and he then told me that it was originally written in dramatic shape, and thence transformed into a story. It will be witnessed, accordingly, next Wednesday in the form of a comedy. The author first cast it. It provided excellent opportunities for the lady who plays Kitty Clive.

Mr. Bouchier is very active in the cause of charity. He is to give a performance at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 17, for the benefit of the Church of England Men's Help Society. The programme will include "Mr. versus Mrs.," "Kitty Clive," the second act of "The Chilly Widow," and "Incidents" by Miss Florence St. John, Miss Letty Lind, Mr. Hayden Coffin, and Mr. Terrier. Mr. Tree, too, announces benefit performances for the Royal Eye Hospital and for the Siddons House Hospital at the afternoons of Dec. 9 and 16 respectively.

The Olympic will soon have an admirable opportunity of regaining popularity. On Thursday, the 21st, Sir Augustus Harris will

transfer to its boards that highly-successful drama, "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," which has to make war at Drury Lane for the pantomime. Nothing so fortunate for the Olympia has happened for many a year. "Cheer, Boys, Cheer" is sure to continue there its triumphant career; and when once players have got into the habit of going to the Wyndham street house we may hope that they will continue to go there as long as it remains a theatre.

The announcement of the "last night" of "The Benefit of the Doubt" at the Comedy does not necessarily imply, I hope, that Mr. Pinero's play will be speedily withdrawn. Let us hope that the announcement may have the effect of sending the public to the Comedy in large numbers, and consequently, the further effect of delaying the withdrawal of the piece. The work is spoiled by its third act; but the first and second are admirable, and the acting—notably Miss Emery—is everywhere of the first order.

OLD IZAAK.

The Thames has been high and thick, but a few days' fine weather will put matters right, when good fishing ought to be had. In quiet corners, anglers will now find plenty of sport, and the much-desired water at Richmond has again yielded excellent results. The industry in the week, and nearly all the competitors had fish. Mr. A. Pope was 1st, with close upon 3lb. of roach and dace, Messrs. Steptoe, Wilson, and Lovock coming next, in the order named. Some good dace were taken, and all from the bank. Mr. J. Haigh, of the Grange Angling Society, also had a splendid take of roach.

Good reports reach me from Datchet, Kingston, and Sunbury, and at the latter place the president of the West London Anglers (fishing with Herbert) has had a capital take of roach, two of his fish going over 1lb. each. They were taken with bread crumb, in about 2 feet of water.

The Lea has been well fished during the week, but with rather disappointing results. The Good Intents fished at St. Margaret's for eight prizes, of which only four were taken, the winners being Messrs. Pulham, Burton, Angler, and Smith. The South London Anglers, fishing in the same quarter, had a blank, but three of their members, Messrs. Frost, Pyle, and Frel, had capital sport in private waters. The Enterprise Anglers, headed by Messrs. Killick, Rencher, and Claridge, also had sport, and at Waltham, Mr. Levein, of the Golden Carp Anglers, secured a fair take.

Mr. Hollman, of Pulborough, informs me that the Arun has been in flood, and the water of course thick and muddy, but it is a river that quickly rights itself, and is favoured now by low tides, will be a fineable order by the time that the water of the Arun happens in the interval. Very few anglers have lately visited Pulborough and Amberley.

From Deal I hear that the sea anglers have obtained splendid sport. Messrs. J. W. Zaehndorff and G. E. Clarke, fishing from a boat off the pier last week, secured a big haul, the largest fish being a cod of 20lb. 10oz. Mr. Clark's Wind and weather have been favourable, and a large number of sea fishermen have visited this popular resort during the last few days.

The annual supper of the Piscatorial Society, held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Monday last, under the genial presidency of Mr. E. S. Jennings (hon. treasurer) proved a brilliant function, nearly 100 members and friends attending. The supper (consisting entirely of fish), was excellently served. Mr. G. Foreman occupied the vice chair, and a splendid musical entertainment, to which Mr. Jennings, George Blackmore, and Mr. Phillips contributed, added greatly to the enjoyment of the evening. The usual toasts were warmly received, and those of "The Queen," "The Society," "The Chairman and Vice-chairman," were fully honoured.

The Great Northern Brothers had a capital show of fish at the Robin Hood Sunday last, chiefly taken from the Thames. J. Hewitt scored first, with 10lb. 13oz., and Messrs. F. and G. Watling next, with 8lb. 5oz. and 7lb. 10z. respectively. Including "Johnny Osborne's" take of 17lb. 10z. (not from the Thames) a total of 55lb. 9oz. graced the trays, and a nice class of fish they were.

Let me once more urge all club secretaries to see that their members respond to the collection on behalf of the preservation and stock-fund, and to send in their contributions to one or other of the association's secretaries at as early a date as possible. Time is rapidly passing, and it is most important to have a distribution before the year closes. I trust the appeal will be well responded to, not only to serve a good cause, but to uphold the good name of the anglers of London.

Mr. C. A. Medcalf (president), who was warmly welcomed after his recent illness, occupied the chair at the Central Association's meeting on Monday last. Mr. Goodwins (V.P.), of the Isaack Walton, also attending. The Anchor Fishing Society, of Kingston, numbering over 50 members, had recently enrolled; a hearty vote of thanks accordingly, was accorded to Mr. Elmore and Parkin for their services relative to the Wade testimonial; half a guinea voted to the Riverkeepers' Dinner Fund, and sundry matters discussed in reference to the preservation fund and preservation work generally, before the meeting closed. The framed testimonial to Mr. Wade was on view, and greatly admired.

In making of the testimonial, I hear the Alma Anglers, being somewhat late with their subscription, have presented Mr. Wade with a very handsome lamp on their own account, to which a plate bearing a suitable inscription has been attached. No testimonial yet accorded in the angling world has been more worthy than that given to Mr. Wade, and his services so widely appreciated, all classes of anglers gladly joining to do him honour.

The latest sensation is the capture of a seal at Richmond. Where the creature came from is not known, but if sea gulls and seals are to make the Thames their winter quarters, the Preservation Society will have another difficulty added to the many they already have. Possibly my worthy colleague, "Buckland Junior," will supply a solution or tell us what to expect in that direction.

The Henley-on-Thames Fisheries Preservation Association have just purchased for restocking purposes 200 large trout, 400 carp, and 400 tench, for their portion of the Thames, and intend to secure an additional valuable addition to the waters under the protection of the association, from which anglers ought to largely benefit.

GENERAL CHATTER.

There are some curiously-constituted palates that find relish in elderberry wine. Perhaps mine may be vitiated, but ever since the days of infancy, when we children were given the beverage as a treat by an old nurse, I have held it in high esteem. All the same, I never credited the

staff with such malevolence as a young man at Leamington laid to its charge the other day. Caught in the act of giving runaway rings all down one side of a street, he solemnly assured the bench that "his mother's berry wine had overcome him." It used to overcome me and my brothers in a different way, the effect produced being the reverse of exhilarating.

Seeing a brass plate announcing that "The famous Indian botanist and tennorial artist" resided there, a passing lady expressed surprise that a learned gentleman should come all the way from India to open an enlarged tonsil. She conceived that "tonorial" was an adjective derived from "tonic!"

The other afternoon, as I was strolling homewards, there accosted me a faultlessly-dressed gentleman of somewhat clerical aspect. Could I kindly tell him where a school, whose proprietor's name he gave, could be found? Now, I happened to know the locality very well, and to the best of my belief, as a schoolmaster of the given name had ever carried on business there. So I informed my querist, and was passing on, when, to my utter astonishment, he burst forth with a harrowing tale of how he, "a master of France," had come to London in search of tutorial work, of his many disappointments, of his walking about day after day, from morning to night, and of his being literally reduced to starvation. Was it a true story, I wondered? It seemed an awfully incredible one. The "master of France" had such a comfortable, well-to-do appearance, that I lifted my hat, and murmuring "Awfully sorry, I am sure, walked away. It would be a very innocent-minded tutor who considered that prowling from school to school was the best way to obtain employment.

More and more overcrowded are the side-pavements in the Strand; there are times when it is almost impossible to get ahead without jostling. Formerly, it was only during the height of the season that the wayfarer was thus impeded, but latterly the clogging has become a permanent factor. As the pavements could only be widened at a "reform" not to be thought of for a moment, I do not see my way to suggest any other remedy than the construction of a well-lighted subway on either side of the thoroughfare. But that would cost a mint of money, while the shopkeepers might object to the withdrawal of so many possible customers from temptation.

The police might be a little sharper in bringing to book cabmen who leave their vehicles outside public-houses without anyone in charge. This dangerous practice is, of course, dead against the law, but for all that it is one of the most common occurrences. Every quietest house is liable to take fright when something out of the common happens close by, and when once it gives way to panic, human beings are pretty sure to suffer. There are generally loafers outside public-houses, who would be glad to earn a copper or a drink by taking charge.

It is estimated by fairly trustworthy authority that when March 31, 1896, arrives, the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to find a balanced surplus of fully £2,000,000 sterling. In the ordinary course, this amount would fall into the National Debt Sinking Fund, and be used for the liquidation of Consols. But with those gilt-edged securities already standing at a very high premium, such a deal would be very disadvantageous to the nation. It is therefore proposed that the surplus shall be used up before the financial year ends for naval augmentation. That would save Sir M. Hicks Beach from adding to the burden of taxation in the following year. It should be understood, however, that in the event of Consols falling below par at any time, the amount thus diverted from the Sinking Fund would be recouped to the Commissioners of the National Debt.

Self-propelling road conveyances are bound to come before very long. Public opinion is, however, not inclined to the abolition of all Acts which hinder their introduction, and when the way is smoothed by that preliminary operation, there can be little doubt that mechanical genius will overcome all other difficulties. It would be of enormous advantage to farmers to be able to dispense with horses for the conveyance of their produce to market, while in towns, tradesmen would greatly benefit by the cheaper method of delivering goods. But what would become of "our unrivalled breed of horses?" It is an ancient question; when railways were first introduced there were endless predictions that they would disestablish and disendow the equine race.

A friend of mine has just been left a silver snuff box, a really handsome bit of plate, by a deceased relation. In the days when snuffing was fashionable, it was always placed on the mantelpiece, and the box was moved, in company with the snuff, by any host who did so now would be regarded as an antiquarian. Unless, therefore, a snuff box is large enough to be used for cigarettes or cigars, the owner can only give it place in his museum of out-of-date curiosities. Our ancestors would not have believed that such a revolutionary change could ever come to pass.

A contributor to the interesting "Unapropriated Virgins" correspondence ventures the statement, as an excuse for young men's backwardness in taking to themselves wives, that "living is twice as expensive as it was 30 years ago." I should much like to see proofs of that assertion; statistics show conclusively that food, drink, clothing, travelling, tobacco, and almost everything except rent, are very much cheaper than at the date assumed. The real difference is that the modern young man and the modern young woman also, spend much more freely on pleasing of one sort and another; they have come to believe that life is not worth living unless thus sweetened, and some of them even stint their bodies of proper nourishment for the purchase of entertaining excitements. It is the same in all classes; first a demand for more leisure and then a demand for higher remuneration to make this additional leisure pleasant.

MADAME.

Outdoor garments take a prominent place in fashions of the present time. Vast care and pains are bestowed on the fashioning of comfortable and dainty wraps, taking the various forms of coats, cloaks, capes, mantles, jackets, as well as the long pelisses. The styles of all styles of figure are catered for in the department of dress. Young and old, tall and short, slender and stout, will all be able to find something suitable and becoming wherewith to clothe themselves when taking their walks abroad. Much discretion is needed in the choice of an outdoor garment; what looks well on a tall, graceful figure will fail to give satisfaction to one that is short and stout, but there is ample provision for everyone to have what is fashionable as well as becoming.

Tight-fitting coats of velvet and velour du Nord are a fashion feature of this season. Hitherto these materials have usually appeared in cape or mantle form, but this season they are constantly to be met with in very smart-looking, tight-fitting coats, with shot or striped silk, and finished at the neck with a deep fur collar. In some

cases the wrists are finished with cuffs of fur to match the collar.

I met with a very charming example of a coat of this description. It was of black velvet du Nord, a material that possesses the right soft appearance of velvet and at the same time gives infinitely better wear than the more costly fabric. The coat was cut to fit the figure easily without any of the strained look a tight-fitting coat so often has. The basque was rather short, and very full at the back. A specially dressy touch was given to the coat by a deep collar of chinchilla, the same fur being used to trim the wrists of the large full sleeves.

A coat such as I have just described is only suitable to a young, graceful figure. For elderly ladies and matrons the cape or mantle form is more becoming. Apropos of mantles for matrons, I was shown a lovely one in the same material, velour du Nord. It was covered with an elaborate design in the one-piece pattern being outlined with small jet beads. The pattern of the cloth with its outline of sparkling beads on the soft rich velvet of the velour du Nord was uncommonly good.

The mantle was shaped in the upper part to fit gracefully over the shoulders. It gradually widened out below into full soft folds round the neck, reaching to nearly the one-and-a-half-quarter length. It was lined throughout with striped silk, black and gold, with an interlining of wadding. The neck was finished by one of the fashionable pleated ruffles of broad black satin ribbon, a bow of the ribbon being attached in front with a looped bow and ending in the front with its outline of sparkling beads. Of course, coats and mantles of this material are only suited for fine weather wear.

While we are on the subject of outdoor coverings, I must tell you of another fashionable style of coat. It is a combination of cloth and velvet. The coat is a tight-fitting shape with a long full basque, either black or coloured. The upper part of the coat is composed of velvet, taking the form of a deep v-neck, pointed capelike. Revers also of velvet turn back over the full sleeve tops of cloth, the wrists being finished with gauntlet shaped cuffs of velvet.

A coat of this description looked lovely of rough-surfaced cloth in a rich, full tone of the new shade of blue. The yoke, high collar band, and revers were of velvet in a shade lighter than the colour of the cloth. The tight-fitting undergarment was also of velvet. The outer edge of the skirt, revers, collar, and cuffs were trimmed with a narrow band of smoked fox fur. This trimming went charmingly in combination with the rough cloth and velvet.

The rage for button trimming continues unabated. I met with a very effective development of it on a handsome gown the other day. The material was smooth cloth, a rich shade of mulberry. By the way, mulberry takes a leading place as a fashionable colour this winter. The gown was cut in the fashionable wide skirt, the fullness being arranged in a series of deep folds at the front. The front breadth, which hung quite plain, was trimmed half way up at each side with straps of mulberry coloured velvet, and two large buttons of cut steel between each strap.

The bodice I thought remarkably pretty. It was tight fitting at the back, with a slightly full front, a little puffed over the waist. A straight opening down the centre showed a vest panel of orange coloured silk. Down each side of the opening in the front of the bodice were placed straps of mulberry velvet with cut steel buttons. The bodice was trimmed with a narrow band of velvet, and over each shoulder the effect of the bright buttons on the dark coloured gown was specially good.

MR. WHEELER.

Coloured cycles are coming into vogue, so it is said, the fair sex. Their creatures are having their cycles finished in coloured enamels. They are unwise; a black cycle matches anything, but fancy a lady in blue riding a terra-cotta coloured cycle, black, ladies, is the proper finish for a cycle, and I strongly advise you to adopt that finish and no other; it will save you both money and trouble.

The Road Menders' feeds are coming along again. I think that these are really excellent things. They show the wheelman's appreciation of the roads he has specially improved, by reason of their excellence, and encourage the road men to do what ought always to be done, viz., leave a little cycle path on either side of new stones for the convenience of the riders of the lightest of road carriages. Good as are the feeds, I believe myself in the French method of putting such feeds on the French method of putting one man. In due time that man learns the peculiarities of his particular bit, he knows its weak points, after a night of rain he can walk to the bit that is certain to want attention, he takes a personal pride in his section, and is gratified if you praise it. The whole I like the French method, and any one who has toured in France will, I think, agree with me.

More shows! There is to be a mysterious exhibition shortly somewhere in the wilds of Camberwell, I do not know exactly where, but I shall without doubt learn in due time. The Dublin show runs from Jan. 25 to 29, the Glasgow show is in March, and the Paris show is now in progress, and taking it altogether, I cannot help thinking that fancy that a cycle show does do some good, and that such exhibitions should not be utterly done away with. Funny, is it not? But the fact remains.

Mr. Muehling, of the Centaur Co., in discussing the American exhibits at the Stanley show, remarks that the American makers have not an Old Man of the Sea round their necks in the shape of tyre monopolists. Well, the matter rests entirely with the trade. They can push and support other tyres if they like, but up to date they have not done so. The trade should be strong enough to break the back of an attempt to monopolise, but at present a section of it is at it as trying to break the back of a body of men who are working for it gratis, whilst the very much bigger matters referred to by Mr. Muehling are left unnoticed. The American cycles, by the way, have quite failed to set the Thames on fire, and the fitting and arrangement of the saddles and springs on the very called roadsters indicate clearly the fact that the American roadster of light weight is what we should call a racer. Any well-made English racer would stand all the work one of the American light-weights would.

THE CORRECT VERSION.

A Lynton paper says: "James Balfour, who has been convicted of fraud, is related to Lord Arthur Balfour, Leader of the House of Commons, and Duke of Atholl, the Prime Minister. On account of this, the convict will most likely be imprisoned in the Tower of London, which for many hundreds of years has been reserved as a jail for breakers of the law among the nobility of England."

The 18th annual concert in aid of the benevolent fund of the London Harness Makers' Society will take place to-morrow at Marlborough Hall, Regent-street. As many as 564 cases have been relieved since the formation of the fund in 1876.

ASYLUMS BOARD AND THE MILK STEALING CASE.

The clerk to the Metropolitan Asylums Board has written with reference to a statement showing that the board is in no way responsible for the deplorable condition of the Smith family. In common with other papers last Sunday we published the report from a correspondent upon whose information we are accustomed to rely, but in this case it will be seen that he was entirely misinformed as to the facts relating to the Metropolitan Board, and we much regret the body, but when that body is doing its best it is an act of simple justice to put it right with the public. The board's clerk writes:—"With reference to the statements which have appeared in the press concerning the case of Alfred Smith, residing at 71, Usher-road, Bow, who was tried on Saturday last at Worship-street Police Court, having stolen a jar of milk and who is reported to have said that he had 3 children down with scarlet fever, whom the Asylums Board had failed to move to hospital, I am directed to forward the following statements of facts:—(1) No application has been received by the Asylums Board for the removal of any patients named Smith from 71, Usher-road, Bow. (2) On November 26 an application was made by the medical officer of health, Poplar, for the removal of Alfred and Eleanor Cox from 71, Usher-road. It was stated that there were 6 children, another of whom was ill, and that the family occupied 4 rooms. Owing to want of room in the board's hospital, the patients could not be removed that day. The application was renewed the next day, when the name of another patient, Arthur Cox, was added, and it was then stated that the patients and their parents occupied one room only. An ambulance was then sent to remove the 3 patients to hospital, but when it returned the nurse reported that the parents of the children refused to allow them to be removed, as they had recovered from the fever. Notice of this refusal was sent to the Poplar Sanitary Authority, and nothing more was heard of these cases until 12.30 on Saturday last, when one of the sanitary inspectors applied for their removal at the Western Ambulance Station. There were, however, no vacancies for them until Monday morning. They are now in the Eastern Hospital."

An extraordinary affair has been reported to the Strandtown constabulary, near Belfast. While a youth named Menora was asleep in a bed-room named Menora, 35, who had only been recently engaged, armed herself with an iron ring from the kitchen range and a carving knife. Proceeding to Menora's bed-room she attacked him in a murderous fashion, slashing him about the head and face. After a fearful struggle she left him for dead. He was subsequently conveyed to the Belfast Royal Hospital, where it was ascertained that he was suffering from five scalp wounds, his face, shoulders, and hands being fearfully lacerated. The doctors entertain but slight hopes of his recovery. The woman Gale, who was subsequently arrested, hails from London, and was for some time a stall attendant in Belfast Industrial Exhibition. No motive is assigned for the crime. Menora was brought up at Holywood, co. Down, on Wednesday, and remanded.

SENTENCED TO DEATH. At Nottingham Assizes, Henry Wright, 25, was sentenced to death for quadruple murder at Mansfield. Accused lodged with a widow named Reynolds, 50, to whom, it was suggested, he had offered marriage, which she refused. Early on the morning of Aug. 11 he walked in a nude state to Mansfield Police Station, carrying a child in his arms, and declared that he killed his landlady and 3 other people. This terrible statement was verified when the police went to the house, which they found in flames; for when the fire had been extinguished Mrs. Reynolds was discovered lying on the kitchen floor with her throat cut and her body horribly mutilated. Her sons, aged 15 and 16, lay in their beds upstairs, their throats having also been cut, and her grandson, aged 3, had been murdered in a similar manner. Prisoner had set the house on fire, and then cut his own throat.

The Home Secretary has announced that he will issue orders for the protection of wild birds in accordance with the report adopted by the Devon County Council, the orders to come into operation on Jan. 1.

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part of the British Government. However, there are signs that this negligence to one of the most vital nation's needs is about to give place to intelligent activity. The arrival of Chamberlain at the Colonial Office will...

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HASTINGS:

[illegible]

TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER.

BY LARRY LYNX.

Readers of this article will remember that the opinion expressed therein was given upon the relative merits of the horse racing and the sports of the turf. It was then stated that the horse racing was a more popular and profitable sport than the sports of the turf. It was then stated that the horse racing was a more popular and profitable sport than the sports of the turf.

A more drastic example of the unpopularity of Monday racing, especially at this time of the year, was never afforded than the sample served up to visitors at Wye last Monday. There were no spectators, and the only horse put in an appearance. There were two walks over, two horses ran in one race, four in another, and three in the last. After the race was over, the only horse put in an appearance. There were two walks over, two horses ran in one race, four in another, and three in the last.

Zone, who rather likes this course, was made a good favourite for the Timberham Hurdle Race, while George Lonsdale was also a host of friends. The latter, however, was not so much of a favourite as the former, who was made a good favourite for the Timberham Hurdle Race, while George Lonsdale was also a host of friends.

There was another good day's racing on Wednesday at Gatwick, when the chief interest of the day was the contest between the two horses, which was a very close one. The contest between the two horses, which was a very close one. The contest between the two horses, which was a very close one.

Sandown Park followed Gatwick, and although the weather was far from enjoyable, no rain fell on the opening day. This, however, did not pass away without a most unexpected incident occurring. The contest between the two horses, which was a very close one. The contest between the two horses, which was a very close one.

Space has hitherto precluded me from referring to the racing statistics for the year, but it is now time to do so. The racing statistics for the year, but it is now time to do so. The racing statistics for the year, but it is now time to do so.

The first annual dinner of the London Athletic Club, at St. James's Hall last Tuesday, was a great occasion. The first annual dinner of the London Athletic Club, at St. James's Hall last Tuesday, was a great occasion. The first annual dinner of the London Athletic Club, at St. James's Hall last Tuesday, was a great occasion.

failed to keep their engagements. Other speakers in Mr. K. Holman, the secretary, J. B. Martin, the president, Godfrey Shaw, Reginald Williams, G. E. Robertson, E. B. Turner, S. C. Clutton, Walter Rye, and others. The speaker, Mr. K. Holman, the secretary, J. B. Martin, the president, Godfrey Shaw, Reginald Williams, G. E. Robertson, E. B. Turner, S. C. Clutton, Walter Rye, and others.

Since the ladies' cycling races have proved such a success at the Aquarium, there is not a doubt that these events will soon be up all over the country, on open as well as in-door tracks. The ladies' cycling races have proved such a success at the Aquarium, there is not a doubt that these events will soon be up all over the country.

Although a lot of the riders, especially the English competitors, had never been on a track before going to the Aquarium, the ridership shown by most of them was equal to that of the oldest racing men in existence. Although a lot of the riders, especially the English competitors, had never been on a track before going to the Aquarium, the ridership shown by most of them was equal to that of the oldest racing men in existence.

As Cardiff has already been Newport, they were thought very likely to get the better of Blackheath. As Cardiff has already been Newport, they were thought very likely to get the better of Blackheath. As Cardiff has already been Newport, they were thought very likely to get the better of Blackheath.

Both "Varieties" are going strongly under Association rules as well as Rugby. Both "Varieties" are going strongly under Association rules as well as Rugby. Both "Varieties" are going strongly under Association rules as well as Rugby.

FOOTBALL RESULTS.—On Saturday, Nov. 30, the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade beat the Scots Fusiliers. FOOTBALL RESULTS.—On Saturday, Nov. 30, the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade beat the Scots Fusiliers. FOOTBALL RESULTS.—On Saturday, Nov. 30, the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade beat the Scots Fusiliers.

CHARGE AGAINST AN ARTISTE. Maria Lilly, 18, of Deacon-street, Waltham, music hall artiste, was charged at Southwark, on a warrant, with conspiring with her lover, Arthur T. Shannon, to procure the performance of an illegal operation.—The young man Shannon was remanded on Nov. 30 on the charge of inciting a doctor to commit a felony.—Det.-sergt. Gentle stated that he arrested Shannon at 10, Walsley-street, Waltham, on the evening of Nov. 30. She had been performing at the Empire Theatre of Varieties under her professional name of Rose Ellerton. When the witness told her the charge, she said, "I don't see why Arthur ought to be locked up; it was his fault. I told him to try and get a doctor to do the operation for me, and I am sure I don't see anything in it."—On Thursday, Mr. Lewis, who presided for the Treasury, said that, after consulting with Mr. Sydney, solicitor, who appeared to defend Lilly, they had agreed to apply for a remand for a fortnight, as there were some peculiar circumstances connected with the case which he did not had time to inquire into.—Mr. Lewis thereupon remanded Shannon on bail. Accused were subsequently released, and it transpired that they intended to get married during the period for which their case has been adjourned.

CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED POISONING. At West London, Edith Fenn, a respectable-looking kitchenmaid, was charged with maliciously administering poison to a baby girl, 3 years old, daughter of an officer, Kensington, with intent to murder.—The mother of the child stated that accused had been in her service about 6 weeks. On Monday afternoon the cook called her attention to the baby's minge, which it was the girl's duty to prepare. It smelt strongly of ammonia. On going to the nursery, the nursemaid brought her a can of milk, which also tasted of ammonia. The mother began to get frightened, and implored the girl to tell her what she had done to the baby's food, but she replied, "Nothing." A bottle of ammonia was missing from the bath-room. She asked the prisoner what she had done with it, and she replied that she had thrown it with it, and she replied that she had thrown it with it, and she replied that she had thrown it with it.

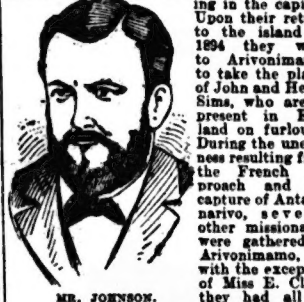
The Glasgow magistrates have resolved to confer the freedom of the city upon Mr. J. Balfour. Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital has received a bundle of cash from the Queen for the use of inmates of that institution. Lord Wolsey, Commander-in-Chief, held his first levee on Thursday at the Horse Guards, Whitehall. Among those present were the Duke of Connaught and other officers, in addition to the members of Lord Wolsey's personal staff. The presentations numbered 100. Messrs. Brown and Greene, of Gresham-street, have just introduced a novelty for those who use telephones. It is an attachment to the telephone receiver, and is a guard to the ear, assisting vocal messages to be heard and without interference from extraneous disturbances. It is claimed that the dangers of ear troubles and nervous disorders due to the use of telephones are reduced to a minimum. The little apparatus, which costs 2s. 6d., consists in a rubber surface containing a substance that is almost impermeable to sound.

MISSIONARIES MURDERED IN MADAGASCAR.

Last week we published the sad news from Antananarivo that a mob of 2,000 natives had attacked the mission station of the Friends' Mission there, and that Mr. W. Johnson, his wife, and child had been massacred and mutilated. Mr. Johnson, who was son of Mr. J. Johnson, still living at Clapton, London, went out to Madagascar in 1871, and 12 months later married at Antananarivo Lucy Sewell, daughter of Mr. Sewell, now residing in Leicester, a former missionary in Madagascar—indeed, the "Friends' Mission in that country was founded by Mr. Sewell and his American friends in 1867. With the exception of two visits to England on furlough, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have lived in Madagascar ever since their marriage. They arrived in England for the last time in August 1892, sailing again for Madagascar from Southampton during the same month. Up to the time of their departure for England in 1892 they had been working in the capital. Upon their return to the island in 1894 they went to Antananarivo, to take the place of John and Henry Sims, who are at present in England on furlough. During the unseasonable resulting from the French proposal, and the capture of Antananarivo, several other missionaries were gathered at Antananarivo, but with the exception of Miss E. Clark, the fourth team from the game for their return to the island in 1894.



MRS. JOHNSON.



MR. JOHNSON.

stations. The S.P.G. has several missionaries in Madagascar, but up to the present the officials see no cause for anxiety as to their safety. The nearest to the scene of the recent massacre is the Rev. F. Gregory, son of the Dean of St. Paul's, who with his wife has resided at Ambatoharanana since 1879.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S MESSAGE. President Cleveland's message was delivered to Congress this week. The President declares his conviction that the only remedy for the condition of the finances of the United States is to be found in the retirement and cancellation of greenbacks and of the outstanding Treasury notes issued in payment of the silver purchases of 1890. Referring to the Venezuelan dispute, the message explains that the United States called upon Great Britain to submit the matter to arbitration, but had not received any reply up to the present. The message also alludes to the dispute between Great Britain and Nicaragua, and deprecates the breach of the neutrality laws by Americans in sympathy with the Cuban insurgents.

SOLDIERS IN TROUBLE. At Brentwood, William Midford and John Briggs, drummers in the 1st Suffolk Regiment, stationed at Warley Barracks, were charged on remand with causing grievous bodily harm to Eliza Cast, and with stealing £5 and some provisions from her at Warley wood on Nov. 21, when, it is alleged, the woman was taken to a shed and subjected to great violence. Her eyes were blackened, her nose broken, her chin cut and bruised, her hands and arms bitten, and her body severely kicked. She was rendered unconscious, and on recovering she found that she had been stripped naked, her hair cut, and her face marked with the tatters of a petticoat on she made her way to a house and was given some clothing. She was confined to bed for a week, and was still suffering severely from her injuries. She was positive that prisoners were the men who assaulted her.—Prisoners each allege that it was the other who committed the assault.—Committed for trial.

SERVANTS' FAIR CHARACTER. At Marylebone, Kate Capel, 18, living at Earl-street, Edgware-road, was summoned by Mrs. Punchard, of Cornwall-road, Bayswater, for offering herself as a servant with a false and forged character. Defendant was a servant of the late Mrs. Punchard, of Sutherland-avenue, from April to July this year, and was then dismissed, her mistress going to France. Mrs. Punchard had an interview with defendant, who explained that Madame de Mensieux had gone to France, and in order to assist her to get a situation handed her a written character of a satisfactory nature. On the faith of that document complainant engaged defendant, and she went into the service. In September she was discharged for disobedience. Defendant summoned her (Mrs. Punchard) for wages in the county court, and the case was dismissed. Inquiries were then made as to the written character, and it was discovered that it was a forgery. Madame de Mensieux denied having written, or caused to be written, the document produced.—In reply to the magistrate, defendant admitted that a fellow-servant wrote the character for her, and she used it.—Mr. Plowden thought defendant was probably led into this. But this was an offence against society, and must be stopped at the spot, and punished severely, or the proper relation which should exist between servant and employer would soon cease to exist. He fined her £10, or six weeks' imprisonment.—The money was paid.

ALLEGED LIEBEL ON A DOCTOR. At Bow-street, Herbert Cadett, journalist, again appeared to a summons taken out by James Adv. of Brixton, for publishing a defamatory libel on Nov. 11.—It is alleged that defendant wrote and published an article in an evening newspaper reflecting on complainant's character as a doctor, and making serious charges.—Mr. J. M. Brown, clerk to the court, produced documents, said to be a repetition of the alleged libel, sent to the council by defendant. There was a notice sent to Dr. Adv. on Nov. 20 to appear before the council.—Dr. Adv. was cross-examined at length. He said he determined to take criminal proceedings as soon as he received a letter from the Medical Council. The report was a garbled account of an interview with the council, produced by defendant. There were some points in the report which connected it with the interview and enabled him to identify it as applying to himself.—Adjourned.

The G.W. express known as the Flying Dutchman ran into a flock of sheep which had strayed on the line near Taunton and killed 20 of them.

UNAPPROPRIATED VIRGINS.

Sir,—I think there would be less pain and anxiety in the world if there were not so many young marriages. Girls get married nowadays the very first chance they get simply to say they have a home of their own. But what follows? Poverty, misery, and unhappiness. They are very soon young mothers; dear children are brought into this world to be starved and neglected. I do not intend to remain an old maid all the same, as I am about to enter into matrimonial duties myself. I have been in good situations for more than 15 years, and have seen a great deal of the world. I am a good, honest, industrious, &c. You rise at an early hour, go to bed the same, have your meals punctual, which, as a rule, are good and wholesome, and, above all, learn good manners if in a good family. You complain of not having liberty enough, but you generally get an evening's work. If a young girl wishes to clothe herself well, and thinks of having a home of her own, there is no money to spare for every evening in the week. Give me a hard working fellow, and let me know his character and temper if it is possible to do so; it is stupidity on a girl's part to look too high in life. As soon as some are acquainted with a fine coat, cuffs, &c., they think he is a gentleman at once, but manners make a gentleman. I would rather prefer an honest countryman than one of the London fops, who devotes his time simply to his own pleasure.—Yours, &c.,

ONE IN THE WEST-END.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE." Sir,—It appears to me that about half your correspondents agree that the principle reason there are so many unmarried young women is the state of the young men's finances. Under these circumstances they are wise to avoid matrimony. They are not so much of a great deal of the world, but their rank and position, and the unpopularity of being also numerous but wise in their generation. I think any young man who wants a wife does not find any difficulty in getting one he thinks will suit him, and further facility of communication between the sexes would only increase the competitors and not lessen the supply of unmarried girls. I have heard of a great number of marrying men, but the rank of shop girls, servants, and work girls, but perhaps not so early in life as from other classes. The young men these ladies get in contact with have to wait till they secure a settled position and have saved a little money before they think of marriage. The class a little higher in the social scale are better situated, their parents often giving them a start. I am afraid the evil will not be remedied by any amount of correspondence; it will remain the same. It is doubtless the fact that all young women have a longing for a husband and home of their own, but it always has been, and always will be, that a certain number are disappointed, polygamy not being allowable. Considering the over-increasing population, it is not an unenviable lot that women are getting married. I don't think there is any necessity for the shop girls to cavil at the servants, or the servants at the shop girls, and so on. Comparisons are odious. The majority are very nice as they are, and just as womanly (which is the highest praise) as their fore-runners, and their time will come as soon as the time of the world. In the meantime without anxiety as with it. They are in a position to do without a husband if necessary.—Yours, &c., C. J. B.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE." Sir,—I agree with those who are in favour of emigration, as quite a number of instances have come under my notice of a very young man, who, being married as soon as they reached their destination. But, as an impartial observer, I cannot understand this anxiety of some women to enter the married state. Please allow me to state that it was not until my age was 26 that I was appropriated, and after 7 years of married life had the misfortune to lose one of the best of husbands. Yet I cannot say that it was a blessing. I have since been married, and I have found that the joys were double, the sorrows were the same, so I think if the average woman would be contented in earning her own living, be it as a domestic or at a business, she would find it best in the long run. As I have tried both sides, having been a widow now 6 years, and earning on an average £18 a week, which I keep myself respectable, I would not be appropriated again. I think the chance, although I like the companionship of men better than that of my own sex.—Yours, &c., J. G.

[As the whole subject has been thoroughly threshed out in all its bearings, this correspondence must now cease. No further matters will be given insertion.—ED. "THE PEOPLE."]

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE." Sir,—As a Welshman, I cannot allow a little irregularity which appears in the "People" to-day, your issue of the 2nd inst., to go uncorrected. You say that the word "Dad" in Welsh is pure Welsh, and means father, and that the opening words of the Lord's Prayer in Welsh are "Ein Dad." This should be "Ein Tad." It is purely a grammatical error, and to a Welshman is not euphonious.—Yours, &c., Dec. 1. D. SIDNEY DAVIES.

EXECUTION AT BEDFORD. Arthur Covington, 27, was executed at Bedford on Tuesday for the murder of Effie Burgin, 20, in June. Covington had paid some attention to the girl, who was his cousin. About 10 p.m. on June 13, while she was visiting his parents' house, he shot her three times in the head with a revolver. The jury found him guilty of the offence, and he was sentenced to death.

The annual grand ball of the funds of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road, took place on Thursday. A large company of guests were present, and dancing was kept up till the small hours of Friday, everything passing off most satisfactorily. Messrs. Holmes and Goss acted as hon. secs.

During this week a successful bazaar, in connection with Finsbury Park Congregational Chapel, was held at Holloway Hall, Holloway-road. The bazaar was opened by Alderman Pound.

Mr. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade, on Thursday received a deputation from the London Labour Conciliation and Arbitration Board representing the London and other Chambers of Commerce, and several trade unions, on subject of the Boards of Conciliation Bill.

ROBINSON'S HAIR POWDER! Best Hair Powder in the World. It is the only powder that will keep the hair clean and cool, and prevent it from becoming greasy and itching. It is the only powder that will keep the hair clean and cool, and prevent it from becoming greasy and itching. It is the only powder that will keep the hair clean and cool, and prevent it from becoming greasy and itching.

A PEOPLE'S HERO.

It rode upon the waters like a thing of life that night. Though the winds and waves were roaring, and the breakers hove in sight; 'Twas a gallant little vessel, and her crew were worthy of their honoured place amongst heroes of the wave.

Though a wall of sea between them and their destination lay, And although the watery gates of death and danger barred the way; Although the stoutest sailor spirit there might well have quailed, Yet on towards their rescue work those gallant seamen sailed.

For a little trawler lay in danger far away from land; She was drifting to the breakers, and it seemed no helping hand Would dare to strive her crew to aid; yet from the Plymouth shore, He with his men put out to save or to return no more.

And 'mid the raging storm put out that captain brave and true, And to the sinking ship he sailed with his undaunted crew. What though the breakers roared ahead; What though the sea was white? What sailor ever turned his back when danger hove in sight?

The tears and prayers that followed them, All loving hearts can guess; And hearty British voices were raised to cheer and bless; For they rescued every soul aboard before they backward came, To wreath their fame and glory round the sailor's jolly name.

When they reached the scene of danger, they knew it was in vain To hope to bring the wreck across the raging sea again. That there was alone one way to save, that gallant captain knew, Though death it might have meant to him and all his noble crew. But stubborn British pluck was there, and so it won the day; He ran his little vessel straight to where the other lay.

And brought them back in triumph from the angry ocean's strife. Then, when he saw that chivalry with British loyalty done, When she to-day upon her shores has such a sailor son?

Talk not of fading honour, when men like him will give Their lives to sword and ocean that Honour still may live.

SINGULAR CHARGE OF MURDER. At Thames Police Court, John Callean, 48, a Chinaman, belonging to Swatow, China, and described as a ship's cook, was charged before Mr. J. B. Smith, with the wilful murder of Singa, a Chinaman, on board the British ship "Credmore" on the high seas, on the 22nd ult.—Rev. G. Piercy acted as interpreter.—Insp. Drew stated that on Monday prisoner was brought to the Shadwell Station in custody of Sgt. Sims. He was accompanied by the captain, chief officer, and two of the crew of the British ship "Credmore." In the presence of prisoner they made statements which were afterwards interpreted to him. He was then charged with wilful murder, and, through the interpreter, made a statement.—Rev. M. Piercy, on being sworn, said that he was formerly a missionary in China, and was perfectly familiar with the Chinese tongue. He was called to the police station for the purpose of interpreting. Insp. Drew's request he told the accused that he would be charged with stabbing the steward on board the "Credmore." The witness told him that the charge was one of wilful murder.

PRISONER SAID, "HE CUT ME FIRST." The steward was making a small model ship, and he said to me "Why don't you do your duty properly?" I said, I think I do; I have done my cooking in the way you require. He said, "You are a good man, then said, 'When in Newcastle why did you not run away?' I answered, 'I had no reason for running away, and did not wish to do so.' He said, 'As you have not run away before we get to London I will kill you.' I asked him, 'Why will you kill me?' In 2 or 3 days we shall be in London.' The steward then took up the big knife and aimed an arrow at my face, and cut near the wrist. I then thrust out my left hand, with the small knife in it, in self-defence, and without design I cut him. He fell to the floor and I put down the little knife and took hold of his hand to take away the knife. He would not let go, and with one hand caught hold of the blade and cut his hand and wrist, and he let it altogether and went out.

CAPTAIN BOUND UP MY WRIST, and then called on me to go back to the galley, which I did. The captain some days afterwards came to me and said, 'The man is dead, and you will be tried for your life. It is the English fashion—life for life.' I said, 'I don't know the English law, but I know all about it. He was jealous of you about something which took place at his home.' A few days before the occurrence, and when in the galley, the steward told the mate something about a woman as to which there was considerable jealousy aroused against me. The quarrel arose out of that. It is nothing more than jealousy. He always quarrelled with me so that there should be a quarrel and he could kill me. I always laughed at him.—On this evidence Mr. Mead remanded accused, to give the Treasury an opportunity of taking up the case.

HIGHLAND RAILWAY MANAGEMENT.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the Highland Railway Co. was held at Inverness on Thursday to inquire into the financial allegations made against the general manager. The report of the investigation committee found that the principal charge was proved. This allegation was to the effect that the manager had placed £150,000 4 per cent. preference stock on the market, and allotted it to himself or friends, thus enabling him to realise a profit of £21,000, though he afterwards gave up his claim to this sum. Two minor charges, of less gravity, were also proved. Mr. Glasgow, as a shareholder, proposed improving the investigation. Mr. Douglass, the manager, made a statement the effect of which was that he had never fingered a penny of the £21,000. He also declared that he had risked his own means in the transaction by depositing a sum of £7,500 belonging to him with the bank. He had erred, he admitted, as to a share in the report was adopted. At the close of the proceedings the directors held a meeting and again considered Mr. Douglass's resignation. The board accepted it with regret, and passed a minute requesting him to continue in office, performing all the duties of general manager and secretary as before, until further notice. It is understood Mr. Douglass will receive a pension.

The Government cruiser, Diana, was, on Thursday, successfully launched from Fairfield yard, Glasgow. Her hull is of steel, and she has a bronze ram.

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Payments of 56s.

We supply Goods to the value of £290 at Monthly

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A CAPITAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

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Receiving musical notes in your relations and

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"MARVEL" VIOLINS.

A SPECIALLY SELECTED, Magnificent Toned Violin,

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Money returned on receipt of the enclosed

BY A CITY SHARK.

The entirely satisfactory manner in which the Paris settlement passed over, combined with greater ease in the money market, have put speculators for the rise into

heart. Almost every day buying has predominated over selling, while that of

of society, the bona fide investor, is more in evidence. Even Americans are turning to the strength of the dollar in all home securities of good class, and the steady demand at higher prices. There is still a tendency in some quarters to look at microscopic gains, but this nervousness is passing away, and should nothing unusual occur, a very short time might see the upward movement fairly on our side again.

As was to be expected after the late tremendous collapse, the gold mining movement continues a bit shaky and uncertain. All the same, there is a good deal of buying, and the outlook is not so gloomy. The great power of money behind them frighten even the most daring bears. Base metals also seem to have a good outlook, although somewhat slow in the start, while Deep Levels are, as usual, a little slower, and seem likely to move upwards on more.

The outlook has distinctly improved around, and there is nothing to hinder those who have superfluous money on hand

trying their luck in the Circus. Of
they should proceed very cautious

take care, if operating on the cover side
to keep substantial reserves within
reach. Subject to the strict observance
of these conditions, speculation against
the rise in the gold mining depart-
ments looks to be a fairly promising book.
Conditions are not in the least likely to
lower, while there seems a good chance
for large improvement.

MONEY MARKET.

CITY, SATURDAY.
Consols unaltered. Foreign Securities
Home Rails dull. Americans stronger
dians improved. Mines quiet. Muncie
steady. Latest quotations.—Consols,
ditto Account, 106 7/8 1/2 9-16; Two
Half per Cents, 103 3/4.

RAILWAY RAILWAYS.

Boston, 176 1/2
Ditto Detroit, 144 1/2
Calcuttan 144 5/8
Ditto Delft, 52 1/2
London & York, 157 1/8
Ditto Prof. 110
Knoxton, Chaldie, 44 1/2
Boston Eastern, 63 1/4
Great Northern A, 57 1/2 5/8
Ditto Def., 50 3/4
Ditto Boston Def., 50 3/4
Great Western, 117 1/8

Hull and Barnsley, 104 1/2
London & York, 157 1/8
Metropolitan 106 1/2
Ditto District, 25 1/2
Midland, 108 1/2
North British, 43 1/2
Ditto Prof., 81 1/2
Scottish Eastern, 65
Ditto Prof., 81 1/2
Sheffield Delft, 48 1/2
South Western Def., 50 3/4
South Western, 119 1/8

FOREIGN BONDS.

Argentina, 1066, 70 1/2
Brazilian, 1066, 70 1/2
Buenos Ayres, 45 G, 1061, 1/2
Chilean, 1066, 70 1/2
Colombian, 1066, 70 1/2
Cuban, 1066, 70 1/2
Danish, 1066, 70 1/2
Ecuadorian, 1066, 70 1/2
Greek, 1066, 70 1/2
Haitian, 1066, 70 1/2
Italian, 1066, 70 1/2
Japanese, 1066, 70 1/2
Mexican, 1066, 70 1/2
Peruvian, 1066, 70 1/2
Portuguese, 1066, 70 1/2
Russian, 1066, 70 1/2
Spanish, 1066, 70 1/2
Swiss, 1066, 70 1/2
Turkish, 1066, 70 1/2
Venezuelan, 1066, 70 1/2

W. of Minas Rly. 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ 76

B. Arroyo Water, 61 1/2	Ditto Per., 9 1/2
Chilian, 1880, 84 1/2	Ditto Debutante, 4
Egyptian United, 101 1/2	Portuguese 3 p C.
Ditto Daira Sanieh, 100, 1	Russian 4 per C., 10
Ditto Domain, 102 3	Spanish 4 per C., 6 1/2
French 3 prCents, 100 1	Turkish 1891, 100 1
Ditto 2 1/2 per Cent, 104 3/8	Uruguay, 3 1/2 per C.

UNITED STATES RAILWAYS.

Atchison, 16½, 17½	Missouri & Texas, 1
Do. Income Bonds, 28½, 7½	New York Central, 1

Central Pacific, 154 1/2	New York & Hartford,
Chgo. Mil. & Pac. 76 1/2	Norfolk & West, Pref.,
Over & Rio Grande, 13 1/2	North Pacific Pref. 1
Ditto Pref., 47 1/2	Pennsy Ivania, 55 1/2
Erie, 13 1/2	Pen. & Ohio, 1st Mort.
Illinois Central, 99 1/2	Reading, 51 1/2
Lake Shore, 151, 4	Union Pacific, 85 1/2
Louisville & Nevile, 53 1/2	Wabash Pref., 18 1/2

OTHER AMERICAN RAILWAYS.
Buenos Ay. Gt. Sn., 123 5 Gnd. Trunk, 3rd Pre

Central Argentine, 57, 58
Gran Trunk Canal, 51, 54
Great Ind. Pref., 53, 56
Ind. 2nd Pref., 59 a
MINES AND LAND.
Afrkander, 14 1/2
Anglo-French, 4
Bantjes, 2 1/2
Barn-to-Corn, 25 1/2
Bayley's Reward, 4 1/2
Bechnanland, 13 1/2
Buffelsdoorn, 3 1/2
Lauriston, 5 1/2
Du Bloek, B. 2 1/2
Mason and Harry, 2
Nav, 3 1/2
Meyer and Ch., 5 1/2
Modderfontein, 9 1/2
Myscor, 3 1/2

Chartered, 50 1/2	Nigel, 40 1/2
City and Sub, 25 1/2	Do. Deep 25 1/2
Express, 1 1/2	Oceanic Land, 1 1/2

Crowns Reef, 10 1/2 11
De Beer's 2 1/4 4
Durban Road, 1 1/2 7 1/2
Eastleigh, 1 1/2 4
Eas Rano, 6 1/2 8
Ferreira, 17 1/2 18
Geldenhuis 4 1/2 5 1/2
Do, 1 eep 5 1/2 6
Glenarm, 3 1/2 4 1/2
Goldfields Deep 3 1/2
Gold Trust 9 1/2 4
Great Boulders, 5 1/2 6
Orion New 3 1/2 4
Potchefstroom 5 1/2 6
Primrose, 6 1/2 7
Ra-d-n-tein, 2 1/2 3
Rand Mines, 2 1/2 3
Rand Rhod-sia 1 1/2
Riesfontein New,
Rio Tinto, 15 1/2 16
Robinson, 4 1/2 5
Salisbury 4 1/2 5
Shamba, 12 1/2 13
Simmer & Jack, 1 1/2 2

Do. Reward 24 6

H-Idelberg Est. 11 1/2	Van Ryn, 6 1/2
Henry Nourse, 2 1/2	Village M.R. 6 1/2
Heriot, 1 1/4	Wemmer, 0 1/2
Jagersfontein, 8 1/2	Westworth, 1 1/2
Johannesburg Inv. 31 1/2	W. Austria Gld.
Jubilee, 1 1/2	Westleigh 1 1/2
Juneau, 7 1/2	West Rand 1 1/2
Kierckdorp, 13 1/4	White Feather, 1 1/2
Knights, 6 1/2	Wolhuiter, 1 1/2

MISCELLANEOUS.

Aerated Bread 5 1/2	Hyderabad Deen.
Allsopp, Ordinary, 141 2	Impl. Ottm. 124 1/2
Dit. Prof. 142 50	Incan. Gas. Eng.

STRANGE POISONING AT OX
An inquest was held on Tuesday
city coroner, Mr. Galpin, on the bo

E. Gurney, 28, who lived with his mother, the widow of a clergyman, in Keble-road

evidence showed that on Monday his mother went to deceased's bedroom, consequence of hearing heavy breathing, door was locked, and on admission, waiting by another entrance he was tumbled on the bed unconscious, and died a few minutes. Three bottles copium and a tumbler in which white liquid were found in a drawer near bed. Some time ago he was worried about his career at Cambridge, and he complained of insomnia arising from this, and had been heard to remark that he liked to sleep for ever. He purchased

worth of laudanum on the 30th and medical evidence showed that death

OATS NOT UP TO SAM
The hearing was concluded in the Bench Division on Friday of the week in which plaintiffs, Messrs. C. and J. Sam, and defendant, Messrs. J. and J. of a certain quantity of oats they refused to him, and which that gentleman the germs of anthrax. The was that the disease broke out in it and resulted in the death of 50 horses of these animals were insured, but defendant-claimed for others that covered by insurance.—Plaintiffs claimed that the oats were not affected as

alleged, or that, as a fact, Mr. Co
horses died from anthrax, and a

who had no complaints from other customers who had bought from the same but the jury eventually found that the first customer's oven was affected, but that the defendant had been guilty of negligence having them cleaned before use. On the basis of this the jury found for the plaintiff but gave a verdict for defendant for his counter-claim.

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